

The Sun

50¢

Thursday, October 5, 2000

Western Palm Beach County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1923

Vol. 77 No. 38

Sun Spots

School Advisory Council Meeting

The faculty, staff and students of Pahokee Elementary cordially invite parents, community members and leaders to our monthly S.A.C. Meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

For more information, please contact Mrs. DeVito at 924-6466.

Commissioner Gallagher at Rosenwald Elementary

Florida Commissioner of Education, Tom Gallagher will join the Rosenwald Elementary School family on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 10:15 a.m. in celebration of the success of their students and staff.

Commissioner Gallagher will be making a special announcement of achievement. Members of the community and media are invited. Rosenwald Elementary is located at 1321 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. at South Bay.

For more details and to R.S.V.P., please contact Barbara Trembles, principal or Mrs. Wilson at 561-993-4058.

School Advisory meeting

West School of Choice will have a School Advisory Council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. in the media center. They invite the public to come out and hear about some of the exciting activities/opportunities they have planned throughout the year. The community's input and support is vital to the educational success of all students at West School of Choice.

If you have any questions, contact Irma Woods at 924-6540.

Depression Awareness Day

Today, Thursday, Oct. 5, Western Palm Beach County Mental Health, in close cooperation with Glades General Hospital, will be setting up screening stations at several locations in Belle Glade. By filling out a questionnaire and participating in a short interview with a mental health professional, participants can determine whether or not they suffer from this very treatable ailment. These screenings are absolutely confidential and they are free. The primary location will be Glades General Hospital, 1201 S. Main Street, 7-9 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Other locations will include: County Health Department, 38754 SR 80, 8-10 a.m.; Belle Glade Senior Center, 2910 SR 15, 10-11 a.m.; 12 noon; Glades Diamond, 100 Downs Circle (behind Winn Dixie), 2-3:45 p.m.

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Lake Level



12.0 feet above sea level

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Who to contact

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SPEAK OUT 561-996-6636
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Ex-commissioner's son arrested for second time

By Brenda Bunting
Editor

Cory Wilkerson, son of ex-Belle Glade City Commissioner Mary Ross Wilkerson, has been arrested once again on charges of grand theft.

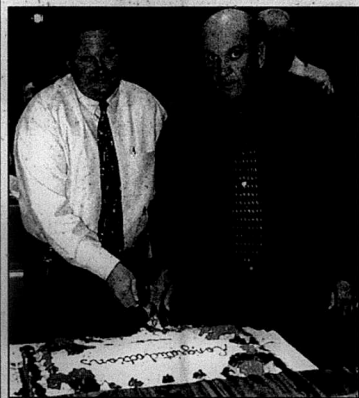
According to the Belle Glade Police Department, Wilkerson allegedly cashed a check written to himself that was supposed to go to his former employer, Glades Community Development Corporation. This is the second time in a week that Wilkerson has been arrested for misappropriating funds from GCDC. He was arrested last week for diverting a check for \$8,500 that was supposed to go to St. Paul's Church of God in Christ.

GCDC Board member Paul Allen said Wilkerson was fired from GCDC several weeks ago for unrelated reasons.

Wilkerson, 29, was arrested again on Friday, Sept. 30 after a police investigation showed he had cashed a check for \$815.75 made out to himself from St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church, Belle Glade.

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PIECE OF CAKE



Newly-elected Belle Glade City Commissioners Jeff Hawkins (left) and Donald Garrett cut a congratulatory cake provided by friends and campaign workers after Monday night's city commission meeting.

Belle Glade boy struck by car

An unidentified five-year-old Belle Glade boy sustained a broken leg Saturday after he ran into the street into the path of a Papa John's delivery driver.

Belle Glade Police said Jay Sykes, 18, was delivering a pizza when the boy ran into

the street in the 200 block of NW 14th Street in Belle Glade. Witnesses told police there was no way that Sykes could have avoided hitting the boy. No charges were filed.

The five-year-old was flown to St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach.

D. Bill Mathis chosen for City of Belle Glade mayor

The Belle Glade City Commission unanimously chose D. Bill Mathis to serve as mayor for the city at Monday night's commission meeting. Newly-elected Commissioner Jeff Hawkins was chosen vice mayor and Steve Weeks as treasurer.

Mathis, 66, is serving his second term on the Belle Glade City Commission. He was mayor in 1999 and has 40 years experience in local government. Mayor Mathis is a former Belle Glade Police Chief and a former Belle Glade City Manager.

In other business, the commission voted to meet again with Tony Smith, the top candidate for Belle Glade City Manager, to try to re-negotiate his contract. City Attorney Charles Schoch told commissioners, as he had at



D. Bill Mathis

several other meetings, that he

See Mayor — Page 3

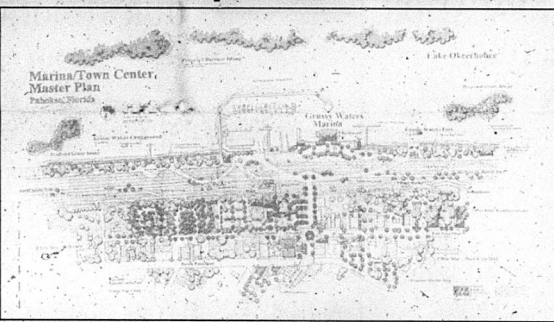
County plans redevelopment of downtown Pahokee

By Tracy Whirls

Imagine an upscale hotel and restaurant on the site of the existing Pahokee City Hall Building, flanked by gift shops and boutiques on one side, and affordable vacation housing on the other. Picture a boardwalk along the rocky rim of the Pahokee Marina with campground facilities on the left and picnic areas, complete with a pavilion for large groups, on the right and maybe a floating restaurant near the existing boat docks.

These are just some of the elements of a proposed master plan for the redevelopment of downtown Pahokee, the marina and campground, presented by Palm Beach County Commissioner Tony Maslotti, Palm Beach County Scholar Planner Vicki Silver and planning consultants Emily O'Mahoney and George Gentile to the Pahokee Commission at a special workshop Tuesday before the regular commission meeting.

Commissioner Maslotti said the development of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail is the catalyst for the revitalization of Pahokee. The LOST plan, developed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers and South Florida Water Management District twelve years ago, calls for trailheads at each of the 22 different



The schematic above, drawn by Jupiter landscape architects George Gentile and Emily O'Mahoney of Gentile, Holloway, O'Mahoney and Associates, Inc. includes a mixture of private and public uses for the Pahokee Marina/Campground and the City Hall site with the goal of making Pahokee's lake-front a regional tourist destination.

communities around the lake.

Mr. Maslotti said he and other legislators were able to convince Lt. Gov. Frank Brogan to fund the projected \$32 million in improvements to the trail, because it has the potential to create 2400 jobs around the

lake. The state currently spends \$13 million each year in unemployment and welfare benefits, the commissioner said, which means that if the trail provides the expected economic impetus to the area, it will pay for itself in savings in two years.

"How will the trail benefit Pahokee? If people walk by and spend their money in Clewiston, it won't. We want them to leave their money here," Commissioner Maslotti said. "Eight months ago we started taking a real close look at the

Pahokee trailhead. This is where the rubber meets the road.

"How do we revitalize downtown Pahokee, how do we create jobs for people who are in despair about ever getting employment? It can happen. Look at downtown West Palm Beach nine years ago and look at it now. You wouldn't believe it's the same community."

Central to the redevelopment effort, according to Commissioner Maslotti, will be removing the Pahokee City Hall building from the state's Historic Register, and relocating those offices to the old Pahokee High School, to allow that building and the police station and fire department next to it to be razed and replaced by a hotel/restaurant and other facilities designed to cater to the tourists who are expected to flock to the Scenic Trail, construction of which is expected to begin within a year.

While the city is lobbying the state to remove the city buildings from the historic register, their next step will be to adopt the proposed master plan, the commissioner said. Then the city can begin applying for federal, state and county grants to begin the redevelopment effort, and request proposals from private developers to locate businesses

See Plans — Page 3

Country Crooner Mel Tillis remembers his roots

By Tracy Whirls

Country music star Mel Tillis hasn't forgotten the small town in South Florida where he got his start and he has fond memories of growing up in Pahokee.

In August, a group of Belle Glade ladies traveled to Branson, Mo., where they visited the Mel Tillis Theater, met the Country Music legend and he reminisced about his roots in the Glades. Mr. Tillis grew up in Pahokee and got his start at the historic Prince Theatre on East Main Street.

He acknowledges he had several jobs before his smooth voice landed him a recording contract in Nashville.

Mel once drove a milk truck that delivered dairy products around the south end of the lake.

"I was always a little late. I'd stop somewhere and have 15 cups of coffee. Rooster Edwards had the food store there in Belle Glade and he told me, 'I want my milk and cottage cheese to be the freshest this morning.' And I said, 'Mr. Edwards, it's going to be the freshest thing the next morning.' Mr. Tillis said, in a phone interview last Wednesday from his office in Branson, Mo.

The laconic figure, punctuated by the stutter that has made him famous, forces the listener

to pause a moment before the joke sinks in, making even a phone interview or a conversation with Mel Tillis a comedy routine.

"You know, when I worked for Foremost Dairy, I had to go to Riviera Beach and pick up the milk, then I delivered it from Riviera Beach to Clewiston. I'd get home at 11 o'clock and I'd have to get up at 3 o'clock. It about killed me. I told Mr. Sparks, 'I can't hardly stand it. I haven't had any sleep in about a week.' Mr. Tillis recalled. "But I wrote two or three songs while I was on that milk truck, 'Heart Over Mind,' which was a hit for Ray Price, 'Burnin' Memories.' So it wasn't a complete loss."

Lately, Mr. Tillis said, he hasn't finished many songs.

"I start a lot of songs, but I'm so busy, I never have time to finish them," said Mr. Tillis, who from April to January performs two shows daily at his Branson Theater, then hits the road to tour around the country from January to April, with a few breaks in between. "You've got to be insulated from people to write. That's how I wrote so many driving that milk truck by myself." He pauses a moment, then adds, deadpan, "Maybe I oughta get me a job on a milk truck."

With a \$31 million dollar/39-



Several Belle Glade women traveled to Branson, Missouri in August and attended the performance of Mel Tillis and family at his theater in Branson. Mel and his daughter Connie signed autographs and had their picture taken with the Glades women. Shown with Mel Tillis, from left to right are Jerri Unwin, Greedie York, Linda McWilliam, Sandra Chamblee and Connie Tillis.

acre theater complex in Missouri that boasts a recording studio for other artists, hosts 2500 tourists a day during the season and features entertainers ranging from the Beach Boys to his

own superstar daughter Pam Tillis, as well as a sprawling farm in Tennessee, it's unlikely that Mr. Tillis will be driving a milk truck any time soon.

It wasn't always like that.

Born Lonnie Melvin Tillis, the son of Lonnie Lee and Burna Magdalene (Rogers) Tillis in Tampa, Aug. 6, 1932, Mel Tillis

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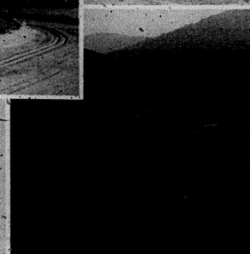
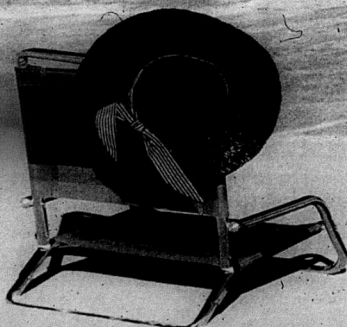


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Tillis

Continued from Page 1

and his family moved to Pahokee. "It was a hard time," he said, "in about 1939-40."

"We left after a few months, then came back in 1942 and I lived in the town of Belle Glade until 1951 when I was evicted from Pahokee High School," Mr. Tillis said.

"My Uncle Wylie had a bakery in Palm Beach, and he was a professional when asked what brought the family to Pahokee. 'After the war he sold out, and my daddy and I went out of the business and ran it until the big bread companies came in and they couldn't make any money.'"

During the first year when they came back to Pahokee, he was having trouble in school, because of the stuttering problem that later became his trademark.

"I wasn't that I couldn't learn or remember, it was my talking. I had questions and sometimes answers, that I couldn't get out of my mouth," Mr. Tillis said in his autobiography, "Stutterin' Boy," published in 1984.

It was during those years that he started turning to music for comfort, particularly when he realized that if he couldn't talk straight, he could sing. He began singing professionally in the Pahokee, while in high school, singing for the Lions Club and the Women's Club and in talent shows at the time the theater was organized by the theater's owner, the late Malcolm Miller.

The old Prince Theater—is it still there? he asks, then continues after being reassured that it is, and now belongs to the City of Pahokee, "That's where I got my start," Mr. Tillis said. "I was Frank Sinatra's 'The Music Stopped,' went from pop to country and I did an impression of Ray Charles. I was in the theater. Then I did a little thing with my little sister Linda. 'Coma Don't Allow,' and I did a comedy about a buddy of mine, Charlie Holmes. 'Hot Lips and Jasper' was 'Hot Lips and I was Jasper.' I should have been 'Hot Lips,' 'cause I couldn't talk, but we got it all mixed up," he says, and he characteristically making fun of the speech impediment that caused him pain as a child.

In the early years, people thought he was making fun of people who stutter, that it was part of his act. Others have learned him of exploiting the disability.

"After a lot of years and more hurting than I like to remember, I can talk about it lightly, which causes things a bit. It's a way of showing people that it hasn't licked me, so it doesn't have to lick others," Mr. Tillis said in his autobiography. "Sometimes stutterers or their relatives will come up to me after a performance and tell me how much of an inspiration I've been to them.... I've stuttered my way through nine movies, 'Cannonball Run' and 'The Godfather Part II.' Even 'Who's Your Favorite?' But Loose with Clint Eastwood and Smokey and the Bandit, to name some. And thousands of people have seen him speak. I've gotten better over the years—very slowly." In 1998, Mr. Tillis was named spokesman and "Honorary Chairman" for the National Stuttering Foundation, which was formed in 1947 to promote awareness of the speech impediment that affects over 10 million Americans. Mr. Tillis notes "when I was kid, I didn't have a speech therapist to help me. I was a kid who stuttered. 'Get help from a speech therapist and don't let it lick you.'"

It was also during those early years that he developed his affinity with the Glades and Lake Okechobee, hunting, swimming

and fishing.

"It was a wonderful, wonderful place to grow up. We had the lake all to ourselves. If we wanted a mess of fish, we could catch 'em," he said. "I remember as a kid, me and my cousin Frank Tillis, who still lives there, in Canal Point, and an old boy by the name of Gene Harrod, I'd swim across the back and we'd swim across the channel, and on the other side it was shallow enough to wade up in, and we'd fill up a croaker sack of them little tiny catfish. We did that all the time."

The lake and the people who live around it, have also been the inspiration for his humor. In his latest book, "Me's Cookies," d-d-d-d-d up in, and we'd fill up a croaker sack of them little tiny catfish. We did that all the time."

"I got started cooking or tryin' to cook when I was 9 years old. I remember very well the first time I tried to get a wafflepan for too. The kind you don't forget—the singer writes. Like many of today's latchkey children, who get home from school before their working parents, Mr. Tillis and his siblings had to fend for themselves at times while both his parents worked and he made his first stab at cooking with disastrous results. While cooking fried potatoes, the skillet got too hot, flames broke out and before setting his shirt alight, he managed to burn the skillet in a washbas full of dirty overalls—and got a spanking for the mess he made."

She probably had called it child abuse, that I shall never forget. And brother I needed it, too," he says. "I don't know what he had warned him not to use the kerosene stove or play with matches in his absence. Shortly after he got home, he began to teach the children how to cook."

This, Mr. Tillis said, working in the summer, taught him to be a professional. In three days, the nine-month school calendar was different than today. "We were out January, February and March so the school boys and girls could pick strawberries during berry season. We were paid two cents a quart, and if you were a fast picker, you could make a dollar or two in a day's work. And that was good money in those trying times. The berry money went a long way in helping to buy our school clothes, a few groceries. With a leftover quarter every Saturday, we could go to the picture show and see Gene Autrey and the gang. The money left over for candy, popcorn and an RC Cola. The bleeding hearts of today would say that was child labor and should be considered cruel and inhuman. I heartily disagree with that kind of thinking. It taught me the value of the all mighty dollar. It taught me how to respect other folk and their property, made me a Republican for life and taught me how to cook."

In between tales from his Florida boyhood, recipes are interspersed and many of them have "glades" references: "Pahokee Meatballs," "Okechobee Oyster Gumbo," "Dad's Okechobee Catfish Fillets," "Hutton's Corn Pritters." In the cookbook, Mr. Tillis describes the Huttons as "The best sweet corn growers in the world. When I was in the Air Force in Oklawaha, we'd get crates of fresh sweet corn with the Huttons Brothers label on it. I'd tell all the boys, 'That's where I'm from, Pahokee, Fla.'"

He goes on to explain that he was a baker in the Air Force. "I didn't want to be a baker. I wanted to be a pilot. I wanted to fly one of them fighter planes, but they told me, 'No way Jose!' The way I see it, I'm a baker."

See Tillis — Page 4

they hope to do so soon. Commissioner Weeks said if re-negotiations with Mr. Smith fail, the commission would need to go back and interview all the top candidates for the position.

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Plans

Continued from Page 1

In the redeveloped area, they think they'll have the customers for it, the private sector will come," said Mr. Maslotti, noting that the master plan will likely evolve as the private sector becomes involved in the redevelopment effort. Mr. Maslotti said the city must look to service industry jobs to provide employment for its residents. "You're not going to attract General Motors here," Mr. Maslotti said.

Once the different pieces are in place, Commissioner Maslotti said, the next step will be a full scale promotional effort, to bring people to Pahokee.

"You have the greatest treasure here. This is the only major lake in the U.S. that people are being taken away from. Why? Maybe because we didn't do a very good job of planning."

Beyond revitalizing the lake from the environmental side, the city must begin to look at ways to diversify its housing mix, to provide middle class housing and shopping opportunities to encourage people to live and shop in Pahokee, rather than working here and living in Wellington.

The commissioner said the Department of Environmental Protection is currently working to obtain 6,000 acres in Martin County, which is currently being farmed by the Janjuli sugar cane family, to create filtration marshes. The Janjulis might be willing to swap 6,000 acres for 3,500 acres in the Glades because they can grow more cane on less acreage in the muck, the commissioner said. Out of that, 2,000 acres would be set aside to carve a 1,000-acre mixed-use zone, where a residential community, and shopping complex would be developed, he said. The Janjulis will agree to the swap if there is a lot of public support for the transfer, the commissioner said.

"When it gets to that point, you could pass a resolution urging the state to transfer the land, and agree that it's in the best interest of the community to annex that property," Commissioner Maslotti said. Economic development will not happen if the community is not "united you start turning some of these cane fields into

communities and housing."

The commissioner said the county staff is at the city's disposal to help bring the redevelopment proposals to fruition.

"We need to know where you want to be, what you want to be when you grow up," Commissioner Maslotti said. "Now it's up to the city and it's elected officials. I can't do any more for you."

What the Master Plan proposes

The Marina/Town Center Master Plan, as proposed by Jupiter landscape architects George Gentile and Emily O'Mahoney of Gentile Holloway O'Mahoney and Associates, Inc. includes a mixture of private and public uses for the Pahokee Marina/Campground and the City Hall site with the goal of making Pahokee's lakefront a regional tourist destination.

The City leases the 105-acre Marina and Campground, the only marina on Lake Okechobee, from the State of Florida. The two-acre City Hall site, just landward of the Herbert Hoover Dike which encircles the Lake, contains three buildings which the City owns to vacate as funding becomes available to build or renovate City buildings at other locations. Once the plan is finalized, the City will send out a request for proposals to prospective developers.

The goal of the plan is to increase and enhance access to the lake by pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, to make activity areas more attractive and welcoming, and to attract private sector investment in the lakefront to provide different activities for visitors and thereby create jobs for Pahokee residents.

According to Emily O'Mahoney, the redesigned waterfront area will provide interconnectivity between the land side and the marina and multiple layers of activity along the waterfront.

"People will be able to come and do many things. The campgrounds will remain pretty much the same, except for the creation of a boardwalk along the rocky area on the shoreline, and a small dock to give campers lake access for their boats," Ms. O'Mahoney said. "The far side remains mostly the same with picnic areas, although we propose constructing a large pavilion for large

groups, similar to the one at the Belle Glade marina."

While the main vehicular overpass will remain, the roadway will be redesigned to get cars off the dike itself, which will be part of the scenic trail itself, with driving areas constructed to allow vehicles to come into and exit either side of the waterfront and provide parking for those vehicles, which can be restricted during festivals to allow space for festival goers.

The centerpiece of the redeveloped area will be the Grassy Waters Marina, which will include a redeveloped camp store, space for other private businesses, such as boat or jet ski rentals, perhaps even a floating restaurant. An amphitheater for concerts and other entertainment might be incorporated on the far right side of the marina area, closer to a proposed civic area across from the old high school.

On the landside of the scenic trail, the city owned parcel comprising the city hall and other buildings could be leased to a private developer who would then either convert the existing structure into a hotel, with perhaps a restaurant on top, or those buildings could be demolished and a new structure built.

According to Palm Beach County Senior Planner Silver, "Although the commission has agreed to privatize operations of the marina, the plan calls for keeping public places public. 'There's no plan to turn the area into the breakers or some other private facility.'"

Parking areas would remain, but could be utilized as a green market on the weekend, Ms. O'Mahoney continued. Single unit rental properties, either bungalows or trailers would be installed at the left for vacationers. The existing urban core of the city would be infilled with

new businesses and civic properties, preserving such buildings as the Prince Theater, and creating access across the dike to and from those businesses and the scenic trail. "It's a great opportunity to explore new housing alternatives and village markets, with primarily pedestrian back street areas," Ms. O'Mahoney said.

The proposed plan even calls for the construction of barrier islands, created by dredging the lake bottom in the marina, to protect the marina basin during hurricanes.

Consultant Gentile told the commissioners that adopting the master plan will allow them to aim higher when seeking FUND/FRAP grants, noting that a boardwalk with educational signage, an eco-classroom, picnic pavilions and enhanced restrooms are all fundable projects. Once the conceptual plan is approved by the Corps, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and South Florida Water Management District, then public and private partnerships could be created to dredge the harbor and develop the barrier islands as part of a larger environmental restoration effort.

The commissioners would then review the comprehensive plan for the city to encourage tourist uses, give bonuses for good design (such as providing landscaping, lighting, benches along the entry street) and other incentives. Once all those provisions are in place, then the city can put out requests for qualifications or proposals to redevelop the project area.

The proposed master plan was developed at the county's expense using existing proposals, such as the 1995 Charter and other planning tools.

Commissioner Maslotti predicted that the project can be completed within 2-5 years.

Arrest

Continued from Page 1

Sgt. Robert Wheelahan said he met with Father James McKenna last Thursday and was advised by the priest that GCDC had provided the church with a three year grant for \$3,750 each quarter. Father McKenna said in the past, when the commission did not use all of the funds, they would return the unused portion of the fund money to the corporation. Father McKenna said on January 10, 1999, he met with Wilkerson and was told by him that the check should be made out to him. Father McKenna said Wilkerson told him to make the check out to him because it was a new procedure and the money would be placed in a specific account.

Police checked with officials at Bank of Belle Glade who said the check was cashed on January 12 at approximately 9 a.m. by Cory Wilkerson. Cheikh Daniels, manager of operations for GCDC, confirmed that from January through June of 1999, no check or cash for that amount was deposited into GCDC's Bank of Belle Glade account.

Wilkerson was placed under arrest without bond.

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Due to Reductions in Medicare and Medicaid Payments,

GLADES GENERAL HOSPITAL regretfully announces the closing of the

Physicians Park Clinic at 1199 South Main Street Belle Glade on October 1, 2000.

Any patient seen at this clinic by Dr. Jesus Palacio or Dr. Yaw Abu may contact the office at (561) 996-6571, ext. 300 to make arrangements to forward their medical records.

Dr. Jesus Palacio and Dr. Yaw Abu will be opening independent offices in the area.

Any patient wishing to continue utilizing either physician may contact the office at (561) 996-6571, ext. 300 to make arrangements for record transfer.

Speak Out

Speak out is our free 24-hour opinion line. Call xxx-xxxx to express your opinion or ask a question about public issues. You are not required to give your name. While we want you to speak freely, the newspaper reserves the right to edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

No voting

"I was wondering, why can't voters in Glades Glen and Okeechobee Center and Lake Breeze vote in city, local elections? To me, this is a racial discrimination or whatever you want to call it because a majority of the citizens who live in those areas are black."

Editor's note: Residents of Glades Glen, Okeechobee Center and Lake Breeze cannot vote in local elections because they are not inside the city limits.

Junky yard

"I am residents of NE 3rd St. and SE 3rd St. north. We want to know why the city will not make one of its former employees clean up the junkyard? We have contacted the city several times over this, over the past several years. They will not do anything about it. It's going to get to the point where our property values are going to decrease because of the junk that is in this yard. Something needs to be done. This is getting tiresome. We have tried many tactics to get them to do something and they still refuse. Will we have to take them to court to get something done?"

Bacon Road a traffic hazard

"What in the world is the City of Pahokee doing with Bacon Road? They're cutting it down from four lanes to two lanes and they're planting flowers and trees in the middle of that. That's ridiculous. It's not only a safety hazard, the city is lending itself over to lawsuits. There are going to be people injured, properties damaged. When we have a storm or a high wind, where are we going to go to get away from the palm litter falling from the palms? Ninety percent of the litter from the palms falls in the outside lanes and that's all we have to drive in. The manhole covers are about three to four inches high, that's enough to knock your front end off line. I've lived here forty years and I've seen the city do some absolutely abnormal things, but this is positively ridiculous."

Enough is enough

"Okay, they first go and steal the election by stuffing the ballot box, then they go and try to stop the best man for the job of city manager, Mr. Tony Smith, then they try and shut down the only nice restaurant in town, the Bonaventure Club. Now, the police go to arresting the son of one of the best city commissioners we've ever had saying he has been stealing. All the people that know this man know he did not do this. He had to have been set up."

When is all this going to stop? I know no one thinks that the people of this town know what is going on, but we do.

Editor's note: We received two calls about private businesses that are not appropriate for Speak Out. We also lost some calls due to an editing error. If you called and do not see your Speak Out call in this week's edition, please feel free to call again at 996-6636.

The Sun

417 NW 16th Street, Suite 6, Belle Glade, FL 33430

Brenda Bunting Editor & General Manager
Yvonne Jones Ad Services Consultant
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The Sun (USPS 005026) is published weekly for \$23.00 plus tax, per year, by Independent Newspapers Inc., 417 N.W. 16th Street, Suite 6, Belle Glade, Florida 33430. Periodicals postage paid at Belle Glade, FL. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Sun, P.O. Box 2226, Belle Glade, FL 33430.

A pledge to our readers

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust.
- To help our community become a better place to live and work through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to promote our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those who write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICE: All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

ERRORS: The liability of the publisher on account of errors or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion.

Tillis

Continued from Page 3

I talked I'd never get the clearance to land one of them airplanes. I'd run out of gas for the first time. During his stint in the U.S. Air Force, he formed a group called the Westerners, which played local clubs. After exiting the service in 1965, Mr. Tillis went to college and held odd jobs in Pahokee and its environs until moving to Nashville the following year. In 1967, Webb Pierce reached number three with Mr. Tillis' composition "Mr. Tired," earning the aspiring artist a song writing contract with Pierce's Cedarwood Music.

Mr. Tillis "knew he had to go to Pahokee shortly thereafter, for the last time. "I was in a lawsuit up in Nashville. I wasn't making any money—all my royalties from my songs were tied up in the lawsuit."

Letters to the Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letters from newly-elected Belle Glade City Commissioners Don Garrett and Jeff Hawkins were read to the audience at the October 3 city commission meeting. We wanted to share them with our readers.

Dear Citizens:

I would like to thank everyone in Belle Glade for allowing me the opportunity of serving this great city. Belle Glade is still the best place in the country to live, work and play. I hope that this commission needs your help. Make it a priority to stay informed about your city government. You need, and I need, your help to show your city is being operated.

The problems in Belle Glade did not develop overnight, and they can't be corrected overnight. I ask you to work with me on your suggestions and comments so we can make Belle Glade the shining light of the real western community.

As your elected official, I will honor my campaign promises, and one I intend to do is to offer a State of the Union type report on the status of our city. This report will be read at the regular commission meetings, and will be in writing in the form of a report for your information, which can be obtained from the city clerk.

There are several items I would like to address:

1. Audience comments.—I would like to see audience comments on agenda items moved so citizens can make comments regarding their specific concerns on that item prior to the commission taking a vote. I would also be appropriate for citizens, when speaking to the commission, to face the commission. Turning their back to the commission is both disrespectful and disruptive.

2. Glades Glen's water bill.—(This question was posed to City Attorney Charles Schoech.) Have all the necessary documents been filed such as the Florida Service Charges as outlined in Florida Statutes Section 159.17, in order for the city to recoup the cost of the services? If not, I would like to have my inquiry on record. I would also suggest, with the consent of the rest of the commission, that we proceed with drafting the necessary documents in an effort to collect all monies due to the City of Belle Glade.

By Bonnie Erickson

Thoughts of gardens/cooking and canning don't necessarily always start visions of grandeur or one's heart's desire. More likely to conjure visions of work. We think back on the old wood cook stoves, women in bonnets, men in straw hats, washing jars from daylight to dark. The work is not always easy and the sun can take its toll on the body.

However, according to one associate with the Appalachian Regional Studies Center at Radford University, the rewards are so great the work is worth it. Jim Minick, also an instructor of English at RU, says, "There is something phenomenal about seeing seeds sprout. People say it's therapeutic and it is."

Respected in the local area for his knowledge of blueberry gardening, Minick believes gardening is "using energy to supply your body energy. It just makes a circle in our lives."

Growing and canning a family's food is the most communal



"REMEMBER...SON IF YOU MARRY A FARMER'S DAUGHTER, BEETS, BROCCOLI, AND COLLARDS COME WITH THE PACKAGE...WHETHER YOU LIKE 'EM OR NOT."

Glade. Also, I would like to ask Finance Director Woods what internal changes could be made to ensure that a problem of this nature will not happen again.

3. Adult Entertainment Ordinance.—(Question addressed to Attorney Schoech) What is the status of the proposed Adult Entertainment Ordinance? I would like to see this matter placed back on the agenda in order to take the necessary steps to get an ordinance adopted.

Dear Citizens:

Thank you, my friends, thank you. As you know, my platform was based on the representation of all the people of Belle Glade, the greatest little city in Palm Beach County.

I'm here, reiterating my pledge: I was elected "of the people, by the people, and for the people," the people of Belle Glade. And, yes, my platform is to live up to that commitment.

You, the citizens have elected us, in part, to clean up the City of Belle Glade. And, yes, my friends, I plan to honor that commitment. I hope to not only clean up the city, but to enact a program that will beautify the city and make each and every one of us proud to say Belle Glade is my home: a city that will invite people to move into, not move out of.

We are a very diverse community, one that is made up of many

nationalities, but, let me say this, here and now: red or yellow, black or white, we are all precious in His sight.

Now is the time to unite and work together. We need to start working together for the betterment of our community, work together for its growth, its development and its prosperity.

My job as your newly elected commissioner is to serve you, the people. If you have any problems or questions, just call me. I'm reachable at Belle Glade Produce and at my residence, now and forever. I place myself at your convenience and I promise to you that I will listen, listen to you, the citizens of Belle Glade.

But, my friends, in return, I'm asking you, the citizens, to remember that Belle Glade didn't get into this mess overnight, and it isn't going to get over this mess tomorrow. It will take time, time to heal and time to resolve. In criminal court there is a thing called "Waiver of a speedy trial."

Well, I'm asking you to give us a "Waiver of a speedy solution." Please make us wait. Many of our problems will take time to enact for a successful completion. We need to burn the garden off.

Please people, there are no instant fixes. Our situations will be changing on a daily basis and our priorities must always take precedence.

We will need to go one day at a time. I beg you, give us that time; give us that opportunity.

Thank you, let me thank you, from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for your trust, for

your vote of confidence, for your hard work and for your support. I promise to do everything in my being not to let you down.

Thank you and God bless.

Ron Garrett
Belle Glade City
Commissioner

Letter to the editor

Monday morning, my car broke down on old State Rd 80. Scared and tired, I stood by my car for quite some time before someone finally stopped to see if I needed help. I am so thankful that there are still a few good Samaritans in this town such as Wally Lutz.

Teresa Wetherington

Attention parents

We hope that you were able to come to our Open House on Sept. 20. We had a great turnout. Our first scheduled SAC meeting this school year will be held Tuesday evening, Oct. 10 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the media center.

You know, it is of vital importance that parents be involved in their children's education. By being a part of the SAC, you have an opportunity to be a part of the decision making team at Lake Shore Middle.

We will have delicious refreshments, too, so please take time out of your busy schedule to meet with us on Oct. 10. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,
Mrs. McDade
Lake Shore Middle School

Fall harvest time requires work but rewards are many

means to feed a family and those harvesting and preparing the food for preservation know what's in it. "A garden is the cheapest food source and it's better for you. You know what went onto the plants in the garden and you know how they were cared for."

Minick also believes that organic gardening is certainly not anything new to society. "I had an 81-year old farmer tell me the way I did my gardening was the way they did 50 and 60 years ago. Less or no use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides is how the older generation gardened. It's a miracle cure for less cancer being reported back then, too," Minick says.

Gardening, like everything else, requires commitment to the product. The one commitment nobody likes to think about is that of spending time weeding the garden. Minick doesn't believe there is a miracle cure for weeds but has found that mulch placed around the plants and in the rows cuts tremendously into weed growth.

When it comes to harvest the fruits of your labor, families may also want to think about actually storing their gardens over in the fall. Minick says, "You don't necessarily need to burn the garden off. You can plant garlic or even a cover crop of winter rye. Winter rye is a grain product that protects the soil, enriches the soil. Garlic is something that will grow year-round and can serve several purposes, both food-wise and health-wise. You can plant your garden and it can work for you all year," Minick says.

Beginning gardeners may not realize there are foods that can be grown in the winter. Minick has found, "All of your space can be used wisely and with productivity," he said.

Barbara Chrisley, professor of food and nutrition at RU, has done research through the Virginia Cooperative Extension offices and offers additional pointers and tips on harvesting

a lot of stringing around Pahokee and Okeechobee, studied music at Sanford in Birmingham, Ala. I hired him," Mr. Tillis said.

The development of Branson, Mo., as a tourist mecca could provide some pointers for those interested in the redevelopment of Pahokee. Mr. Tillis said. He said he had with interest the federal government plan a \$2.5 billion on Everglades restoration and he notes, "When I finished high school, there were only two million people in the whole state of Florida, and now there's what 15 million, not counting the tourists who visit. I was just up in Orlando in Birmingham, Ala. I hired him," Mr. Tillis said.

He said, recalling how Orlando was once farmland before developed by Walt Disney. "Everglades starts out little," Mr. Tillis observed, when asked about Branson's early beginnings. "It's always been famous for rain-forest people, and now it's down here to fish the White River. In 1952, they built a big dam on the river and made Lake Tammocome and another dam in Arkansas and people started coming from all over to camp out." The first theater was built in 1976 to entertain tourists visiting the area. He is an entertainer, like Roy Clark, 70 years old. Mr. Tillis decided 11 years ago to build his own theater, as well as a 22-acre home, because he was working so regularly in the area. His son, Mel Tillis, Jr., lives on the family's farm in Tennessee where he is a successful songwriter. Both he and his superstar sister Pam Tillis will join the family for the Christmas season at the Mel Tillis Theater beginning in November.

Throughout his career, Mr. Tillis has returned to his Lake Okeechobee upbringing for inspiration. For example, the hit song "Rudy, Don't Take Your Love to the Sun" was inspired by his

the garden.

■ Harvest vegetables at their peak. Check garden often, pick vegetables when ripe and use as soon as possible.

■ Always wash, make sure equipment is clean. Wash jars and ring bands in hot, soapy water. Do not use cracked jars. Do not reuse jars.

■ If canning fruit, select only the best of the crop. Use fruit but not overripe fruits.

■ Freezing foods slows the growth of bacteria that cause food spoilage. Select only containers especially made for freezing food (i.e., freezer bags, plastic freezer containers or plastic freezing jars).

■ Tomatoes can be cooked, pureed or juiced before freezing. Choose young, tender tomatoes.

■ Always wash, peel and trim away bruised areas on any foods. Minick concludes that when it's time to start thinking about next year's crops, people could actually plant lettuce or greens in September. This would allow families to have a salad through most of the winter season.

See Tillis — Page 5

Belle Glade Police Investigating fraudulent checks

The Belle Glade Police Department is investigating numerous complaints regarding fraudulent payroll account checks. These checks appear to be computer generated and contain no water markings. The checks are being primarily cashed at local supermarkets and convenience stores in the City of Belle Glade. The checks contain account numbers of businesses that do not exist. Any business or person accepting checks are urged to look it over carefully. If you receive a check and believe it may be fraudulent, please contact the Belle Glade Police Department at 561-996-7251. Any person having information pertaining to computer generated checks or information on any other crimes, is urged to contact the Police Department.

Crime Stoppers

Dexter Gibsons

Crime Stoppers of Palm Beach County, Inc. is asking citizens to help locate Dexter Gibsons who is wanted for Aggravated assault with deadly weapon battery. Gibsons is a black male, 5'9" tall, and weighs 170 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes and tattoos on his right and left arms. His date of birth is Jan. 9, 1973. His last known address was 150 NW 6th St., Apt. 2, South Bay, McCloud's warrant was active as of Sept. 26, 2000. If you know the whereabouts of Dexter Gibsons, or anyone involved in a serious crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-8477. You can remain anonymous and still receive cash reward of up to \$1,000 if your tip leads to an arrest.

Dexter Gibsons

Tillis

Continued from Page 4

Town," which was recorded by Kenny Rogers and the First Edition, was based on stories he heard as a young man concerning a World War I veteran who lived in Belle Glade. He bought the film rights to Tom Fontana's "Everglades saga," "Till Take This Land," in the 70s and spent "a ton of money," he said, trying to interest Hollywood in producing the picture—which at the time was more interested in

movies like "Star Wars." "I can see it as a television mini series," Mr. Tillis said. "You know I met the author. He lived in Fort Myers and he used to be the secretary for General McArthur. A few years after that I met Mrs. General McArthur. She asked me to perform a forty minute play at a farm outside Washington, D.C. They had a big stage set up in the barn. It was a real, real fancy place with air conditioning and TVs in the stalls so the cows wouldn't get bored. We finished our set to a real elite audience, and this little old lady walks up and asks if we

can play the Tennessee Waltz and I said, "Lady, they already told us to get out of here." and this man comes up and asks me if I know who I'm talking to—is this Mrs. General McArthur and I said, "Not only will we play it, but can I have the next dance?" And she danced with me and told me it was the first time she'd danced with a man since she danced with her general, and I 'bout fainted."

Despite his personal and professional success, Mr. Tillis has remained close to his roots, and has returned to the area to visit

Arrest Blotter



Belle Glade

The Belle Glade Police Department handled 621 calls, issued 41 traffic citations and made 24 arrests the week of Sept. 25-Oct. 1. Those arrested included:

Sept. 25 - George Baker, 44, retail theft, possession of narcotic paraphernalia; Juvenile, 17, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon; aggravated battery with a deadly weapon; Jessica Hodges, 21, throwing deadly missile into occupied vehicle
Sept. 26 - Corey Burroughs, 31, burglary of a residence, grand theft; Corey Willerson, 28, grand theft; Nikki Tibbs, 29, domestic battery; Cynthia Nixon, 29, retail theft, possession of narcotic paraphernalia
Sept. 27 - No arrests
Sept. 28 - Levon Williams, 37, loitering and prowling, burglary of a business, grand theft; Juvenile, 13, aggravated domestic battery; Marvin Pace, 18, trespass after warning
Sept. 29 - Jan Berry Jefferson, 39, grand theft auto, resist arrest without violence; Sidney Peterson Jr., 32, armed robbery to a business, retail theft, wearing a mask while committing offense; Juvenile, 16, four counts of bat-

tery; Oulance Thomas, domestic battery; Corey Willerson, grand theft; Dwayne Blake, 28, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon
Sept. 30 - Michelle Williams, 31, retail theft; Glen Roy Carrington, 37, gambling with dice, resisting officer without violence, opposing by disguise, failure to appear for attempt to purchase cocaine; Kim Brown, 20, aggravated domestic battery with a deadly weapon; Jan Sykes, 18, failure to appear for trespass on school property
Oct. 1 - Balfour Haynes, 26, carrying concealed weapon; Darius Harden, 26, domestic battery; Renford Davis, 37, possession of marijuana over 20 grams, resist arrest without violence

Pahokee

The Pahokee Police Department handled 174 calls, issued 14 traffic citations and made 7 arrests the week of Sept. 25-Oct. 1. Those arrested included:

Sept. 25 - No arrests
Sept. 26 - No arrests
Sept. 27 - Kevin Tomlin, 33, failure to appear, warrant; Charles McElton, 43, felony theft, loitering and prowling
Sept. 28 - No arrests

Sept. 29 - Audley Campbell, 19, violation of probation, warrant; Juvenile, 14, battery on a law enforcement officer; Juvenile, 15, aggravated assault
Sept. 30 - Fletcher Pitts, 49, felony battery domestic
Oct. 1 - Juvenile, 15, obstructing and opposing a police officer
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Sept. 26 - Luis Morales, 46, no address given, violation of probation no valid driver's license
Sept. 27 - Dean V. Ellison, 30, Belle Glade, warrant for failure to redeliver hired vehicle
Sept. 28 - Roy E. Craddock, 44, Pahokee, grand theft motor vehicle
Sept. 29 - Estaban Hannah, 26, domestic
Sept. 30 - Richey Leon Grear, no age given, Belle Glade, felony driving while license suspended
Oct. 1 - Add Stephen Carter, 31, Belle Glade, simple battery domestic
Oct. 2 - Charles Johnson, 36, Belle Glade, domestic violence; Nelson Jones, 36, Belle Glade, violation of no contact order.

Sun Spots

Continued from page 1

Don't miss safety fair
The City's first annual Public Safety Fair, sponsored by the Police and Fire Departments, in cooperation with the City of Pahokee, the Pahokee Chamber and Main Street, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot of City Hall.

Children can enjoy free pony rides and a moon bounce, along with other games, while learning more about their personal safety. Both departments will be giving items away & the Police Station will be showing off their newly renovated offices.

Everyone is invited to stop in, buy a hot dog & drink or a barbecue chicken plate, or dunk your favorite community leader in the Dunk Tank!

For further information, contact the Chamber at 924-5579, the Fire Station at 924-2424 or the Police Station at 924-5691.

Glades Ebonyque Ladies sponsor breakfast
The Glades Ebonyque Ladies Club (GELS) will sponsor a breakfast for the City of Pahokee Football League Oct. 7 at 8 a.m. in the old Pahokee High School Cafeteria.

The breakfast is organized for the 10th year playing on the Little League football teams and the 30 cheerleaders. Parents, relatives and other invited guests will attend.

The GELS will be assisting in the preparation of the breakfast. For more information contact Herbert Crawford or Ronald Osborne of the City of Pahokee Recreation Department.

Free computer classes
Parents, teachers and community members are invited to free computer classes at Pahokee High and Glades Central.

Session one at Pahokee Middle/Senior High begins Sept. 28 and continues Oct. 5, 12, 19, and 26.

Session two at Pahokee High is Nov. 2, 9, 16, and 30 and Dec. 7.

At Glades Central, session one begins Sept. 25 and continues Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. Session two is Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Dec. 4.

Registration and snacks are offered the week of Oct. 6 p.m. and classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8 p.m.

Bus transportation and child care/tutoring are offered. Call the Technology Literacy challenge Fund Office to register. Those telephone numbers are 924-6419 or 924-3165.

Free college tuition

The Take Stock in Children program provides free college tuition for qualified Seventh Grade students at Lake Shore Middle School and Pahokee Middle/Senior High School.

Parents who have participated in the AFDC or WAGES program in the past four years and have a child in the seventh grade at one of these two schools and meetings the financial guidelines can qualify for the free tuition for their child.

Students must commit to maintaining a "C" average, have good behavior, say no to crime and drugs and have a good attendance record.

Applications are available in the school guidance departments. For more information, call Gwenette Royals at the Communities In Schools at 924-7545 or the CIS office in Lake Worth at (561)582-0820.

Date change

The Lupus Foundation has a new meeting date for the Glades Area Lupus Support Group.

Beginning this month, the group will meet the second Saturday of each month. The meetings will be held from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at Glades General Hospital.

Lupus is an autoimmune disease that affects more than 1.5 million Americans. There is no cure, however, treatment is available. Those who attend the meetings will find a relaxed, friendly atmosphere in which to share feelings and learn more about lupus. The group meetings are free and open to the public.

For more information, call 1-800-339-0586.

Bingo at Elks Club

The Pahokee Elks Lodge, #1638 is offering bingo games for the community every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. at the Lodge, located at 691 East Main Street. Anyone interested can call the Lodge after 4 p.m. for more details at 924-7727.

Reading Challenge

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IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!!

OCTOBER CLASSES NOW FORMING

H&R Block, the world's largest tax preparation service, is offering an Income tax course starting October 9. Call your local office for times and days.

H&R Block designed this course to suit people who want to increase their tax knowledge and save money on taxes, or who are looking for training for a second career or seasonal employment. A tax-related career is perfect for students or retiree's seeking part-time earnings.

Qualified students may be offered job interviews for positions with H&R Block.

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Grove Elementary receives "Five Star Award"

The Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner's Community Involvement Council established the Five Star School Award to schools who achieve 100 percent of the criteria in the categories of Business Partnerships, Family Involvement, Volunteers, Student Community Service and School Advisory Councils. For the third year, Grove has been the recipient of this prestigious award. We thank our staff, our students, our parents and the community for all of their support. We could not have done it without you.

I got caught being good!
Congratulations to the following students for being selected to participate in the weekly "I got caught being good" luncheon: Thomas Martinez, Rebecca Rodriguez, Aristeo Espinoza, Karly Redd, Yirelys Dominguez, and Fernando Martinez. On behalf of the faculty and staff a great big thank you for demonstrating exemplary behavior.

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is sponsoring a Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 28 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There will be a track meet and music fest along with the festival. The Belle Glade Rotary Club is sponsoring a raffle and the proceeds will be donated to our school. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets, contact the Family Center at 993-1976. So, mark your calendars and start saving your money for this great event. We guarantee lots of food, games and fun for the entire family.

Ronald McDonald visits Grove Elementary
Third through fifth grade students had the opportunity to

attend the Ronald McDonald show on Sept. 26. Ronald stressed the importance of reading by emphasizing that "Readers are Leaders." The students really enjoyed the show, there was plenty of audience participation and a few lucky students became instant winners by helping Ronald in a few acts. A Special Thanks to Mr. Nisbet, owner of the local McDonald's, for sponsoring the show and for providing the teachers with coupons and awards to use as incentives in their classrooms.

Club Update
The following clubs are being offered this year: Pom, Pom and Dance, Etiquette, Earth Care, Internet, Baton, Strategic Games, Technology, Reading, Multicultural and T.V. Production. The clubs meet once per week between 3 to 4 p.m. For more information as to the age group and the days they meet, contact the school.

Reminder
If you have not returned the School-Student-Compact form, please do so immediately. It is very important to have this information on file as an agreement between the home and the school. You can contact the Family Center at 993-1976, if your child has lost his or her form. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Upcoming Events...

10/05 - PTO at 6:30 p.m.
10/09 - Holiday/No School
10/11 - Picture Day
10/16 - Curriculum Night
10/17 - Family Reading and Writing
10/19 - SAC at 6:30 p.m.
10/28 - Fall Festival

Glades Day School annual Fall Festival is Saturday, Oct. 14

Glades Day School invites the public to share in its annual Fall Festival Saturday, Oct. 14 beginning at 5 p.m. with the elementary costume parade on the football field. Kids from infants through sixth grade are invited to dress up in their most creative costumes and compete for trophies in categories that include Most Original, Most Authentic, Best Halloween, Best Group Theme and Best Overall Visitor.

The food booths will also open at 5 p.m. and the game booths will begin at 6 p.m. Visitors young and old can take part in popular activities such as the Treasure Chest, Cake Spin, Hayride, Dunking Booth and other activities. Anyone looking for a big score should look no further than the elementary's Haunted House. Third grade teacher Mendi Coker reports that some dedicated parents are working very hard to make this year's Spook House something extra special.

There will also be a County Store sponsored by the fifth graders. They would greatly appreciate any contributions (other than clothes) to help make

their store a success. Anyone who would like to donate items may do so by bringing them to the school or call the elementary office at 993-4140.

Food booths will include chili, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked potatoes, Cuban sandwiches, nachos, candied apples, milkshakes and a goodye bar that will have plenty of baked goods to satisfy that sweet tooth.

A Silent Auction will begin at 6 p.m. in the school's Robert L. Mace Athletic Center in McWhorter Hall. It will be followed by the live auction at 6:30 p.m. Each year the auction has over a hundred items donated by area merchants and supporters, including cruises, a weekend getaway for two, and Goodyear Blimp rides.

Drawings for four popular items will also be held throughout the evening. The items include a Log Cabin quilt donated by Sister's Choice, a Remington 870 Express 12 Gauge Shotgun donated by Bull's Eye Pawn & Gun and Seminole Supply, Inc., a Remington Model 7-243 caliber rifle donated by Dr. Edwards.



It's carnival time! Glades Day School will have a drawing for a four-door loaded, navy blue metallic 2000 Pontiac Grand Am SE Sport Sedan sponsored by the school's athletic boosters among other activities during their annual fall festival Oct. 14.

SE Sport Sedan sponsored by the school's athletic boosters. Only 550 tickets are being sold for the car at \$100 each. The last number drawn will be the winner. Additional prizes will also be awarded for tickets drawn at certain intervals. Anyone interested in purchasing a ticket may contact a Glades Day Athletic Booster Club member or call the school's finance office at (561) 996-6029.

The evening will draw to a close with the final drawing for a four-door loaded, navy blue metallic 2000 Pontiac Grand Am

PBCC to offer extended weekend, evening classes

Palm Beach Community College will launch a six-day week next term with an expanded afternoon schedule and more weekend classes to better meet students' needs.

The spring 2001 term that begins in January will offer a block schedule for degree seeking students with more afternoon classes at PBCC's locations in Boca Raton, Belle Glade, Lake Worth and Palm Beach Gardens.

"Our research shows that students will come in the afternoon if we offer something they want," said Richard Yinger, social science department chair in Lake Worth. "They now will be able to get a full schedule in the afternoons at all PBCC locations."

"Our research also shows that students would rather attend two days than three days per week. The block scheduling changes will make it possible for

students to attend classes Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesday and Thursday, or Friday and Saturday. These changes are part of our strategic goal of making students our top priority," Dr. Yinger explained.

Summer classes will follow the new format, too. Students will be able to take classes by coming only two days per week—Monday-Wednesday, or Tuesday-Thursday or by coming only in the morning, or only in the after-

noon. Distance learning students who take classes via videos, TV and the Internet will find that more orientation and class meeting times now will be available on weekends in the afternoon.

There will be no changes in the scheduling of occupational certificate courses which will continue to have a weekly schedule of 5 to 6 hours per day to facilitate early job entry.

Challenge program last year.
McDonalds launched the program as a way to encourage kids to discover all the library has to offer. It is a natural extension of McDonalds continued commitment to education and family issues. Supported in the Palm Beach County market by McDonalds owners/operators Jim Booth, Keith Melton, Steve Nesbit and Paul Ruffa. Library systems in Okeechobee, Indian River, St. Lucie counties are participating, in addition to many city libraries in the Palm Beach County area. Ronald McDonald will be making appearances at selected locations.



Continued from page 5
three visits. Completed Reading Challenge cards qualify children for a prize drawing, including gift certificates to Target stores, Museum gift packs and dictionaries from Houghton Mifflin Publishing. Over 10,000 children throughout Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast participated in the McDonalds Reading

GCDC invites proposals for youth organizations

The Glades Community Development Corporation (GCDC) is inviting proposals from organizations working with Youth, and from individual Youth, defined for this purpose as between the ages of 16 years of age and 25 years old, who live in the Glades area of Palm Beach County. The Glades is comprised of the three municipalities of Glade, Pahokee and South Bay, and the immediately surrounding unincorporated residential area. Following a grant from the Jeffrey and Barbara Picower

Foundation for the encouragement of youth-owned and operated businesses, GCDC is pleased to announce the criteria and eligibility for this grant.

Applications may be picked up by contacting Marian McChesney between the operating hours of Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at GCDC's office.

Proposals must be submitted by Oct. 27 at 5 p.m. Please also note that the deadline is final. GCDC is located at: 401 SE 2nd St., Belle Glade.

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Prielozny, now president

Bank of Belle Glade

The Bank of Belle Glade, a \$35 million in assets neighborhood bank, today announced the appointment of Stephen M. Prielozny as President.

Mr. Prielozny who has been at the Bank of Belle Glade for three years as Executive Vice President, replaces former President, William Wayne Mikell, who recently retired after 25 years of service to the bank.

Prior to joining The Bank of Belle Glade, Mr. Prielozny held the position of President/CEO of First American Bank of Walton County. He has over 28 years of commercial banking experience.

"Steve's strong commercial banking background will be a definite asset to the Bank," said Dolly Hand, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Belle Glade. "His strong banking knowledge and leadership in the industry will assist the Bank of Belle Glade in increasing its banking presence in the dynamic Western Communities of Palm Beach County."

Mr. Prielozny graduated from the Commercial Lending School of the University of Georgia in 1985 and he graduated from the Graduate School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University in 1987.

Among his numerous civic and community activities Mr. Prielozny serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Florida Bankers Trust, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Farm Bureau of Western Palm Beach County, as a Director of the Glades Area Association For Retarded Children, as a Director of the Western Palm Beach County Police Athletic League and as a Member of the Belle Glade Economic Development Committee.

"With over thirty five years of banking success already behind it, I can assure you that the Bank of Belle Glade will continue to offer the area many more years of progressive, quality banking services including consumer loans, residential and commercial mortgages," said Mr. Prielozny.



Mrs. Dolly Hand, chairman of the Board of Directors for the Bank of Belle Glade, congratulates Stephen Prielozny on his appointment as President of the Bank of Belle Glade.

Obituaries

Raul F. Rodriguez

Raul F. Rodriguez, 76, of Belle Glade died Saturday, Sept. 30, 2000 at Palms West Hospital. Mr. Rodriguez was born to Miguel Rodriguez and Josefa Sanabria in Jaguay Grande, Cuba in 1923 and moved to Pahokee in 1966 and then to Belle Glade in 1973. He worked as a truck driver in various local agriculture business until his retirement. He was a member of the St. Phillip Benit Catholic Church, an avid domino player and a baseball fan.

Mr. Rodriguez is survived by his loving wife Victoria Elena of Belle Glade; daughter Maria Molares of Belle Glade; brothers Miguel of Miami and Ramon of Guanabacoa, Cuba; sister Gloria of Cuba and two grandchildren.

A viewing was held Monday, Oct. 2, at Glades Funeral Chapel in Belle Glade from 7 to 11 p.m. A memorial service will be held later this week at St. Phillip Benit Catholic Church. Arrangements were handled by Glades Funeral Chapel.

Joe D. Benjamin graduates from basic training

Army Pvt. Joe D. Benjamin Jr. has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox.

During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice; physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

He is the son of Catherine and Joe Benjamin of Belle Glade.

The private is a 1997 graduate of Glades Central High School, Belle Glade.



Jane Evans and Paula Evans

Xi Zeta Mu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi honors Evans

The Xi Zeta Mu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi honored Jane Evans on her birthday, Sept. 19 at the Black Gold Steak House in Belle Glade. Jane walked in wearing a very becoming pants set looking like she was 65 instead of her real age which were not telling. Also celebrating her birthday were Paula Evans, Jane's daughter-in-law, who has the same birth date.

Gifts and cards were presented to Jane along with a large cake with one candle in the shape of a question mark.

Those attending were: Jane Evans, her son, John, daughter-in-law Paula, Florence Acree, James and Sandra Chamblee, Karen Corbin, George and Janice Golph, Judy McMillan, Linda McMillan, Jessie and Laverne Motes, Sara Phillips, Tom and Gloria Swager, Laura Tarr, Linda Scola, a guest from Georgia, and Gredale York.



Sara Phillips was named "Girl of the Year" for Xi Zeta Mu Beta Sigma Phi. She is pictured with her sponsor, Jane Evans.

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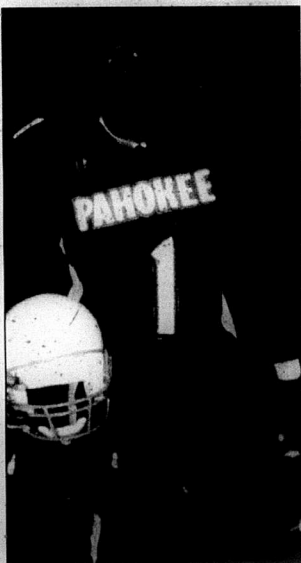
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Pope John Paul Eagles defeat Pahokee Blue Devils



Pahokee's Jawarski Boule (#1) was all over the field offensively and defensively in Pahokee's game against Pope John Paul Friday.

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

Pope John Paul defeated the Pahokee Blue Devils on Friday night in Pahokee. The final score of the game was Pope John Paul 41-20.

Pope John Paul scored six touchdowns, rushed for 190 yards and successfully completed five kicks to master the Blue

Devils in their own territory. Pope John Paul handled the Devils sufficiently enough to record their win with a 20 plus point advantage.

The Blue Devils never let down their defenses, however, scoring in the second quarter with a run from Running Back Jawarski Boule. The Pahokee Blue Devils scored twice in the fourth quarter when Quarterback William

Jenkins passed the ball to Wide Receiver Gary Godfrey. Senior Gerrod Thompson also scored on a fumble return later in the quarter.

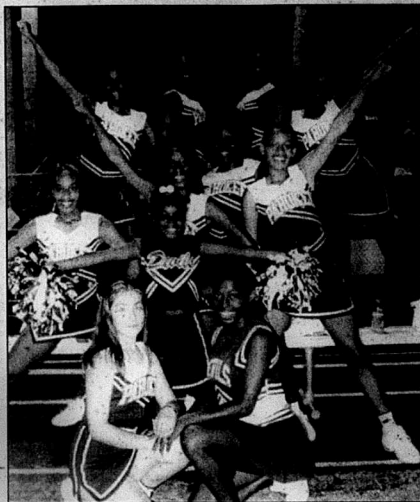
In total, Pahokee's Everson Sanders rushed 30 yards on 16 carries and William Jenkins, was 5-8-2-77, just a few yards shy of rivals' 81 complete passing yards.

The Pahokee Blue Devils have

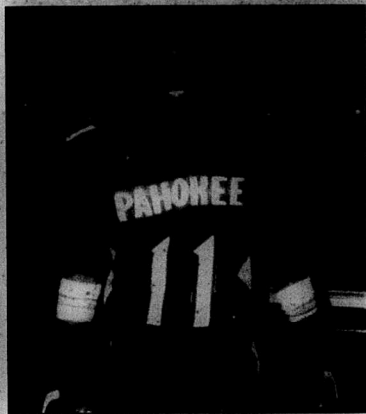
yet to win a game this season, but remain serious contenders in the football race.

The Pahokee Blue Devils were the last to defeat the Glades Central Raiders. Pahokee won that game two years ago 34-14.

Pahokee's next game will be tomorrow against Forest Hill at home. Kick off will begin at 7:30 p.m.



The Pahokee Blue Devil cheerleaders were in rare form Friday.



Gary Godfrey (#11) caught a 39-yard pass from William Jenkins and ran it in for a touchdown.



G. Thompson (#5) was helped from the field by Dominique Williams (#99) after a fumble recovery which he took in for a touchdown.

Benjamin Bucs beat out Glades Day School Gators, 21-16

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

Despite Kyle McNamara's impressive passing game, the Glades Day Gators lost out to visiting Benjamin Bucs Friday night.

The Benjamin Bucs (4-1) proved to be formidable foes against the Gators after consistently scoring throughout the first, second and third quarters of the game.

Glades Day's highlight came in the form of Quarterback Kyle McNamara who led the game, and many more throughout the area, in passing Kyle went 7-19 with 166 yards and one touchdown, on Friday night. Kyle's tremendous performance was seen by football fans at the game as superbly followed through throughout game.

"He demonstrated his desire to win against all odds," commented one spectator at the game on Friday night.

Glades Day's Brannan Thomas ran 24 yards in the third quarter to complement Kyle's performance. Thomas went 2-65



Glades Day School players #64 Jason Miller, #77 Trey Dean, #50 Matt Sanchez, #18 Micah Thomas and #78 Andy Matthews ready to play some football.

receiving and 19-118 rushing against the Benjamin Bucs.

Visiting Benjamin Bucs scored on a 68 yard run by Washington, a 45 yard pass caught by Saunders from Arnette in the second and a 16 yard pass by Arnette that Greer caught; all were followed by successful

kicks by Rhody.

The Gators were able to shut out the Bucs in the fourth quarter, but by that time, the Bucs had already acquired all the points they needed to win the game.

The Gators' next game will be against Clewiston on Oct. 13.

Glades Central Raiders overcome Cardinal Newman

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

After losing to Cardinal Newman for the first three quarters of the game, the Glades Central Raiders pulled off a stunning fourth quarter performance and defeated West Palm Beach's Cardinal Newman, 41-27.

Newman established a strong early lead in the first quarter when they scored 13 points following touchdowns from the hometown players, Pratt and Womack and a successful kick from Beard. They scored again in the second and in the third to enjoy their third quarter 27-18 lead over the Raiders.

It then seemed the Raiders were about to be defeated for the first time in almost two years on Friday as they struggled to put an end to Newman's barrage.

Never yielding and never giving, the Raiders scored three

touchdowns, successfully kicked once and ran twice to earn 23 points in the fourth which included a 50-yard run from a recovered fumble by Linebacker William Beckford and a run to the end zone by Running Back Keith Gruber.

Coupled with their second quarter points - 18 points from Mario Fraser, Michael Brown and Curtis Holley touchdowns - the Raiders beat Newman 41-27.

The Raiders' streak now extends to 5-0, with a 25 win streak that has not been stopped for almost two years.

Leaders in the game were: Running Backs Michael Brown and Mario Fraser who totaled 173 yards rushing. Receiver Joseph also Chapple ran for 47 yards following a pass from Quarterback Curtis Holley who was 5-11-0 for the night.

Glades Central's next opponent will be Key West tomorrow in Belle Glade. Kickoff will be at 7:30 p.m.

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If title is held by husband and wife, either may file but
should bring proof of residence for the spouse.

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PICKS IN PICKS



Standings		
Player	Wins	Losses
Robert Archer	31	19
Mike Burkett	42	8
Randy Gay	38	12
Rick Gold	37	13
Billy Rimes	37	13
Adrian "Big A" Vereen	34	16

NOTES: There was an error in last week's Picks. In the Pahokey vs. Popo John Ford game, Mike Burkett, from Lake Harris, was picked. The Sun printed that he chose Pahokey. All players have been informed of this error and have been given the opportunity to vote Mr. Burkett's pick for a week.

This Week's Games

The underlined> team has the home field advantage.

- Pahokey vs. Forest Hill
- Glades Central vs. Key West
- Clewiston vs. Bishop Verot
- Fla. State Seminoles vs. Miami Hurricanes
- Florida Gators vs. LSU
- UCF Golden Knights vs. Northern Illinois
- Jacksonville vs. Baltimore
- Miami Dolphins vs. Buffalo
- Tampa Bay vs. Minnesota

1st Community Bank of PBC



Robert Archer

Pahokey
Glades Central
Clewiston
Hurricanes
Gators
UCF
Baltimore
Buffalo
Tampa Bay

Lake Hardware



Mike Burkett

Pahokey
Glades Central
Clewiston
Seminole
Gators
Northern Illinois
Jacksonville
Dolphins
Tampa Bay

J.E. Wilson & Son, Inc.



Randy Gay

Forest Hill
Glades Central
Clewiston
Seminole
Gators
UCF
Jacksonville
Buffalo
Tampa Bay

Maroon of Belle Glade



Rick Gold

Pahokey
Glades Central
Bishop Verot
Seminole
Gators
UCF
Baltimore
Buffalo
Tampa Bay

Lake Welding Supplies, Inc.



Billy Rimes

Pahokey
Glades Central
Clewiston
Hurricanes
Gators
Northern Illinois
Jacksonville
Dolphins
Minnesota

Glades Ford Lincoln Mercury



Adrian "Big A" Vereen

Pahokey
Glades Central
Clewiston
Seminole
Gators
UCF
Jacksonville
Dolphins
Tampa Bay



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